

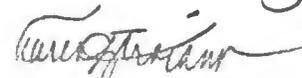
ARPA Commission
December 2, 2021
10:00 a.m.

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TOWN CLERK

Present: Rick Hartenstein, Steve Geryk, David Bachiochi, Lisa Baxter, Thomas Duncan, James Desso, Cathy Cannon, Amber Wakley, Sal Titus

Chair, Rick Hartenstein, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.
Meeting minute approvals were tabled to the next ARPA meeting

1. Project List and Prioritizing

Hartenstein created and distributed an updated project list, which specified project titles, cost, category, description, long-term costs, etc. he commented that in the future project packages (also provided to committee members), will be emailed in advance of the meeting for review.

The committee went on to discuss listed items:

Duncan noted that the Town Hall antenna should be purchased to support security cameras. There was a short discussion if it could still be an ARPA expense. He also reiterated importance separating Police/EMS/FD as potential recipients. He continued, discussing the importance of youth and social services.

Cannon discussed perusing suicide prevention and/or mental health programs. She explained the steps of a QPR – Question, Persuade, and Refer – program/training that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Also deliberated was a behavioral healthcare line, youth services, transportation initiatives, social services, and food insecurity – i.e. – projects that assist vulnerable populations and address health and economic impacts.

Wakley said these types of projects are clearly listed within the Interim Final Rule as eligible expenditures. She also advocated to include departments/organizations, such as Family Services or local food distribution organization to better understand community needs and create projects with the greatest impact.

Duncan suggested inviting Judy Garner or Grace Parrow to a future meeting to discuss needs and gaps within human/community services.

Geryk proposed listing the Milfoil project as a Recreation line item.

2. Update on 3 Lucas Devises for EMS

Cannon described the Lucas Device, costs, services, and maintenance agreement, and project totals. She presented an invoice for three (3) Lucas Devises, totaling \$59,224.63., and an additional \$1200 per year annual fee.

Geryk made a motion to approve the \$60,424.63. Bachiochi seconded the motion. All were in favor. Wakley abstained.

3. Discussion and possible action on Recreation Commission

Bachicoci presented a list of Recreation project proposals, including portable ice rinks, skatepark replacement, fitness path, security surveillance cameras, and the addition of a Recreation Department with part-time Rec Director.

A majority of the conversation was focused on the ice rink proposal, which includes the purchase of 2 separate temporary ice skating rinks from EZ Ice. Project quotes included \$14,574 for full skating rink and \$24,205 for a 85'x200' temporary rink designed for hockey play.

There were several inquiries from various members concerning costs and maintenance, including fill water costs, seasonal storage, security, adequate lighting, security, future repairs, and product longevity. The group also went on to discuss potential locations, such as Olympic Park.

Project eligibility needs to be confirmed. Wakley also expressed concerns about supplemental items such as the storage shed, water and lighting needed for the project. She warned they could be ineligible for ARPA funding because it's difficult to reasonably connect said costs to the Interim Final Rule. She also asked whether the appropriate departments, such as the Department of Public Works and Parks Department, were consulted.

Conversation continued amongst the group, discussing potential electricity costs, water-fill estimates, and the estimated \$8,000 storage shed. More detail will be needed regarding these items.

Wakley will conduct research and communicate eligibility of items in the next meeting.

Pending eligibility and with stipulation of Town Department comment, Geryk made a motion to approve the \$26,000 for the purchase of one (1) full temporary ice skating rink. Desso seconded the motion. All were in favor. Wakley abstained.

4. Discussion and possible action: WPCF SCADA

Hartenstein introduced the Stafford Water Pollution Control Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) project. Essentially, an audit was recently conducted, concluding specified needed upgrades and improvements. Geryk inquired about project timeframe and costs. No action was requested of the Committee, but Hartenstein discussed leveraging locally budgeted funds, ARPA, and State grants/funds.

5. Discussion and possible action: Roofs on Town Hall and DPW Garage

Hartenstein presented a materials quotes provided by the Facilities Department. New roofs are needed on three (3) Town buildings:

Town Hall – \$175,464.70

Community Center – \$39,693.62 (currently budgeted)

DPW Building – 146,184.00

Total Project Cost - \$361,342.32

A 20% increase of material is expected for material costs in 2022. Project eligibility needs to be explored.

6. Discussion of Chair Lift in Town Hall

A short conversation developed about a stair/chair lift in Town Hall. A determination/plan is needed, determining if Town Hall will undergo major improvements in the future. Project cost, description, and eligibility determination is needed is also required.

7. Community Outreach

Wakley discussed the importance of soliciting community input and transparency. She said she has been working on a community survey, website, and suggested tools, which will be prepared for the next meeting. This task is a due diligence effort in understanding community needs and fulfilling reporting requirements.

8. Adjournment

The Commission will next meet in the Veteran's Meeting Room at Town Hall on December 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Baxter made the motion to adjourn, Bachiochi seconded. All were in favor.

The ARPA Commission meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amber Wakley